Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The state of South Dakota is the home of Harlan Merkwan, and we are richer because Harlan lives among us; and,

Whereas, Birthdays commemorate the first day of our lives, and we celebrate the birthdays of those we love as we recognize the joys and sorrows we have shared, the strength we have gained from the obstacles and hardships we have conquered, and the small daily pleasures life offers; and,

Whereas, Harlan was born September 25, 1923; and

Whereas, Harlan married Irene Funke on October 2, 1951, and to this union four children were born, Sharon, Dan, Doug, and Dennis, who went on to procreate six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren; and,

Whereas, Harlan will observe his 80th Birthday with all the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants, as his friends and relatives gather to honor him and celebrate his life and the camaraderie of the day; and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in the life of a man who has lived an exemplary life for all to emulate:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 25, 2003, as

HARLAN MERKWAN DAY

in South Dakota, and I join his many friends and his relatives in wishing him a very happy birthday, good health, and great happiness.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Nineteenth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State